

# SOCCER NEWS

*The Magazine of the*  
**VICTORIAN  
AMATEUR SOCCER FOOTBALL  
ASSOCIATION**

Editor: STUART BEATON, 737 Malvern Road, Toorak, S.E.2.  
Telephone — BJ 3557 (Evening).



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## KICK-OFF TIME AGAIN!

To-day, 94 senior teams will run on to the field of play, and provide the thousands of Soccer followers with the entertainment they love. But in many minds lies the thought: will Soccer progress further this season, or remain static? Quite a logical thought, but most unjustifiable in the minds of "Soccer News."

**W**HEN the season finished in October last year, plans were already being formulated to build up the sport which has become so vital to thousands of persons in Melbourne.

An Enquiry Committee held meetings for over six months, interviewed over 115 officials, and presented their recommendations to Council.

Too much valuable time had been spent on small matters, to the exclusion of major items. How could the Association continue to function progressively under such circumstances?

The answer and the solution is now known:

1. The former League Management Committee has been revised

to provide—

(a) A State League Management Committee comprising one member from each of the State League Clubs.

(b) A Metropolitan League Management Committee comprising three members from the Metropolitan League sections.

In effect, all members will have the opportunity to discuss and vote on matters vital to their continued efficiency.

2. In the "off" season, the Official Coach, Len Young, has imparted his extensive knowledge to over 50 prospective coaches.

3. The number of Clubs has been increased to 62 in the metropolitan area and teams to 94.

4. The Association has secured offices at Olympic Park to streamline the administrative work.

Many other matters have been discussed, and will be published in "Soccer News" this season.

Finally, may we wish you all "Happy Soccering" in Season 1958.

### *Has Soccer Advanced?*

**L**ET's have a look at the financial figures a few years back.  
1946: The Association had £194/8/8 in the bank. The balance brought forward from 1945 was £158/4/10.

1947: Balance in bank, £420/0/5.

Since then the funds have increased rapidly, despite the increased costs of travelling, equipment, ground rentals, etc.

Guess how much is in the kitty now? A healthy sum, we'd say.



# F.A. CUP SUPPLEMENT, 1957-1958

Semi-final, March 22:

**MANCHESTER UTD. 2 drew  
FULHAM 2.**

Re-play:

**Manchested Utd. 5, Fulham 3.**

**How the Other League  
Clubs Fared.**

Semi-final, March 22:

**BOLTON 2 d. BLACK-  
BURN 1.**

**How the Other League  
Clubs Fared.**

Club.	Knocked out by	Round
Accrington	Bristol City	3
Aldershot	Portsmouth	3
Arsenal	Northampton	3
Aston Villa	Stoke	3
Barnsley	Hull	3
Barrow	Stockport	1
Birmingham	York	3
Blackpool	West Ham	3
Bournemouth	Northampton	2
Bradford	Oldham	1
Bradford City	Scunthorpe	3
Brentford	Milwall	1
Brighton	Norwich	2
Bristol City	Bristol Rov.	5
Bristol Rov.	Fulham	6
Burnley	Bristol Rov.	4
Bury	Scunthorpe	2
Cardiff	Blackburn	5
Carlisle	Accrington	2
Charlton	Fulham	4
Chelsea	Darlington	4
Chester	Bradford C.	2
Chesterfield	York	1
Colchester	Wisbeach	1
Coventry	Aldershot	2
Crewe	Hull	1
Crystal Pal.	Ipswich	3
Darlington	Wolves	5
Derby Co.	Middlesboro	3
Doncaster	Chelsea	3
Everton	Blackburn	4
Exeter	Bath	1
Gillingham	Chester	1
Huddersfield	Notts For.	3
Leeds	Sheffield U.	3
Leicester	Mansfield	1
Leyton O.	Stockport	2
Lincoln	Charlton	3
	Sheffield W.	4
	Manchester U.	4
	Cardiff	3
	Tottenham	3
	Cardiff	4
	Wolves	3

Club.	Knocked out by	Round
Liverpool	Blackburn	6
Luton	Stockport	3
Manchester C.	W. Bromwich	3
Mansfield	Bristol Rov.	3
Middlesboro	Stoke	4
Milwall	Gillingham	2
Newcastle	Scunthorpe	4
Newport	Northampton	1
Northampton	Liverpool	4
Norwich	Darlington	3
Notts Co.	Bristol City	4
Notts For.	W. Bromwich	4
Oldham	Workington	2
Plymouth	Newcastle	3
Portsmouth	Wolves	4
Port Vale	Hull	2
Preston	Bolton	3
Q.P. Rangers	Hereford	2
Reading	Leyton O.	3
Rochdale	Darlington	1
Rotherham	Blackburn	3
Scunthorpe	Liverpool	5
Sheffield U.	W. Bromwich	5
Sheffield W.	Manchester U.	5
Shrewsbury	Port Vale	1
Southend	Liverpool	3
Southampton	Crystal Pal.	2
Southport	Wigan	1
Stockport	West Ham	4
Stoke	Bolton	5
Sunderland	Everton	3
Swansea	Burnley	3
Swindon	Reading	1
Torquay	Southend	2
Tottenham	Sheffield U.	4
Tranmere	Notts Co.	3
Walsall	Brighton	1
Watford	Plymouth	1
W. Bromwich	Manchester U.	6
West Ham	Fulham	5
Wolves	Bolton	6
Workington	Manchester U.	3
Wrexham	Accrington	1
York	Bolton	4

## Soccer Round-Up from U.K.

- ★ Stan Matthews recently celebrated his 43rd birthday. What a tribute to his ability and fitness that he is still regarded as Soccer's No. 1 ambassador.
- ★ Italian Club, Juventus, have granted Wales permission to play fabulous John Charles in the World Cup.
- ★ Burnley and Irish internationalist, Jimmy McIlroy, doesn't think much of players' contracts. His gross pay from all sources — Club matches, bonuses, and internationals — this season has been £784 for the first 23 weeks. Not bad, considering he has another 29 pay days this season!
- ★ Glasgow Rangers' £1 shares recently fetched £4/2/6 on the market.
- ★ Scotland's manager and coach, Matt Busby, is reputed to receive nearly £4000 per annum, plus perks as team boss of Manchester United.
- ★ Hugh Howie, Hib.'s regular left-back until four years ago, was killed in a car smash recently.
- ★ 1960 will a red-letter year for British Soccer Clubs. National Service then ends, and a generally levelling up and improvement of play is expected.
- ★ Amateur Soccer fans will view with regret that Queens Park, Britain's premier Amateur Club, and proprietors of Hampden Park, are doomed to Second Division football next season.

—“Jock Scott.”

★ ★ ★

Two new faces on Council this year: C. Harris, of Park Rangers; and Tommy Walker, of Coburg. We know they are capable of doing a good job. In fact, with their respective Clubs they have done a mighty lot of work over the past years.



## PEN PORTRAIT . . .

**JOE SMITH****MANAGER OF BLACKPOOL FOOTBALL CLUB.****By JOHN MACADAM.**

(By courtesy of Charles Buchan's "Football" Monthly).

**J**UST when I was reflecting, rather sadly, that much of Soccer has become a matter of board-room clerks saying "Yessir" to over-riding directors, I ran slap into one of the remaining characters in the game and a manager who has never said "Yessir" to anybody in his life.

Gentlemen, I give you the toast of Mr. Joe Smith, of Blackpool, probably the most blunt, direct-speaking man in the game to-day.

As a Bolton and England player, Joe Smith was a top-class team man and co-operator with whatever scheme his mates evolved. But whatever Joe Smith didn't like, he said he didn't like. And that was that.

Nobody in all his association with the game — and that includes the past 21 years as manager of Blackpool — has ever been left in the slightest doubt as to what has been in his mind.

They don't have to have psychiatric gentlemen in Blackpool. Joe is his own psychiatrist, but that isn't his name for it. Whatever he has to say to his players, either in blame or censure, he stumps in and say right out — bang!

Has this earned him a measure of unpopularity with his boys or his board or with his associates in other teams? On the contrary, it has earned him the undying respect of everybody in the game.

There are no grudges, no inuendos, no favourites. Every player on the staff is treated in

precisely the same way — on his bearing off and on the field.

His players, from the youngest ground staff boy up to Stanley Matthews, are devoted to him.

This is not to say he carries bluntness to the point of boorishness. Not at all. It is a fact that he is a most kindly man who has all the football gifts except the too frequently encountered one of concealment.

When the day comes — and may it be long delayed — when he decides that he has had enough, football will be a lot poorer, for he is one of the last of the great characters.

There are younger men in the game — notably Stanley Cullis, of Wolves; Les McDowall, of Manchester City; and Matt Busby, of Manchester United — who have this same cherished quality of character.

But Joe Smith is one of the last of a vanishing breed of men in football, and I am sorry to see it.

Two cases in point: A theatrical agent called on him one day and, mentioning the name of a very important theatrical personage, said in awed tones that the great one was interested in Soccer, and would it be convenient for him to train with the players?

Joe asked the agent to repeat the name, which, I may say, was blazoned all over the North of England. When the agent did so, Joe said, "What does he do?"

Collapse of stout agent.

That is Joe Smith, who doesn't

believe in awed hushes in reference to anybody. Here is Joe Smith, the kindly man:

When Stanley Mortensen went to Hull City, Joe Smith, knowing of Morty's extensive business interests in Blackpool, told him: "Come along and do your training with the lads, as usual."

Mortensen told me, "I was very touched, and I am very happy to be able to stay in the old dressing rooms. It was typical of Joe Smith."

And here is the downright manager:

The team had a bad day at a recent match. At half-time, he went into the dressing room, looked around and made for the door. Just as he got to it, he turned, and said: "Next week bring your mothers with you."

The loyalty his honesty inspires is infectious. Dodging among the crowd outside the Blackpool stand one Saturday, I found Stanley Matthews making his way to change.

We chatted a moment, and as we parted, I said: "I'm just going in to say 'Hello' to Joe."

Matthews said: "Grand man, grand manager."

When I got inside, I mentioned to Joe that I had encountered the great Stan outside.

"Grand chap," said Joe. "Grand chap."

★ ★ ★

Reflecting back to December, 1957, the Annual General Meeting of the Association was held. Forty-nine Clubs should have attended. Thirty-five Clubs were represented. Not a bad attendance by any means, but what happened to the 14 Clubs who did not appear? Rumour has it that the Association benefited by £10/10/- in fines.



# IS THE REFEREE RIGHT?

At a dinner held by the Referees' Association last season, a member of the Association introduced a novelty item which was appreciated by all members and guests present. In his selling of "Show Bags," he mentioned, "Shorter sentences for First Division players." He hit the nail right on the head, and caused several referees present to have apoplectic fits or near enough. True words are often spoken in jest, and the cap seemed to fit in this case.

SO let's examine the position at present without any bias whatsoever. The number of players who have received marching orders in the past two seasons is not one of which Soccer officials can be proud.

Only two reasons can be presented:

(a) The referee has been unduly strict.

The players do not realise that the referee is the "boss."

Sufficient to say that the referee is the sole judge.

The loss of a star player to a First Division Club can mean the winning or losing of an important match. Actually, every match can be classified as important.

Relegation hits a Club where it hurts most — "financially" — so it is obvious that a leading team prepares a strong case in an attempt to mitigate the alleged offence by its players.

Such is not the case in Minor Divisions. A rather apathetic attitude has been adopted in many instances, and the player concerned has not even taken the opportunity to appear when summoned.

So will the present position continue until official and players realise that the game is the thing that counts, that the referee's decision must be observed without query, but if injustice has been done the players' rights must be defended to the utmost extent.

## Referees' Corner

By R. J. WRIGHT.

### POINT OF FACT OR LAW.

THE laws of the game state quite clearly that a referee's decision of points of fact connected with the play shall be final, so far as the result of the game is concerned.

An example of a point of fact, is whether or not the ball passed over the goal line when a goal is awarded. Here the referee's decision is final. If, however, a referee awards a penalty for an infringement which is not punishable by such an award, then this is an incorrect interpretation, and the offended team may protest.

It is very rare for clubs to take advantage of this rule which is only there to protect them against the really unscrupulous or totally inefficient official, who, fortunately is, I believe, completely non-existent these days.

The action of players appealing against a referee's decision has unfortunately become a tradition of the game, but referees are certainly not influenced by such appeals, which are strictly not permitted. On the other hand, if a player has a reasonable request to make on the decisions, it is only courteous that he should be heard. After the decision has been reaffirmed or fully decided upon, it will stand, and referees should not allow players to argue with them.

The advice to players is simple, NEVER question the referee's decision. You can gain little satisfaction from it. If, however, you feel you have a genuine request to make, do so with proper respect and accept the referee's answer without further questions.

Let me also try to dissuade club secretaries from using the protest clause, for somebody has to make the final decision. So let it be the referee, who, after all, has nothing to gain.

## Grading of Referees — Season 1958

### Grade 1:

Cadelli, L.; Cormack, S.; Curran, W.; Harrison, G.; Hecht, E.; Hutchison, F.; McCarthy, G.

### Grade 1B:

Colo, J.; Forkes, W.; Hookings, G. W.; Lamb, R.; Rossiter, M.; Ward, P.; Woodcock, D.; Pedler, G. J.

### Grade II:

Allen, J. W.; Beckett, A. J.; Gough, R.; Greenwood, J.; McDermott, H.; Muench, H.; Stafrace, L.; Wagner, W.

### Grade III:

Billen, J. W.; Brkic, D.; Brown, W.; Carter, R. J.; Clarke, G. E.; Contini, G.; Despott, A.; Duncan, G. B.; Ciach, S.; Farrer, F.; Gallo-way, J.; Howieson, W.; Hornstra, C.; Illot, J. J.; Kamsner, J.; Lechner, J. P.; MacNeill, A.; Meerman, H.; Paul, J.; Randall, R.; Weiss, A.; Wood, R.; Wilson, S.

### Linesmen Only:

Donaldson, J. H.; McDonald, P.; Shipley, K.



# NEW SOUTH WALES — JUNIORS

*Playing Strength of Associations (Stated in Teams),  
with Comparison Against 1956 Figures*

ASSOCIATION.	TOTAL.		UNDER 10.		UNDER 12.		UNDER 14.		UNDER 16.		UNDER 18.		ALL-AGE.	
	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957	1956	1957
BANKSTOWN	54	75	14	19	14	21	11	13	—	10	7	—	8	12
CANTERBURY	96	104	16	22	20	25	17	17	16	12	6	14	21	14
EASTERN SUBURBS	9	18	—	—	—	8	—	4	—	—	—	—	9	6
GRANVILLE	46	71	13	16	11	18	7	13	6	8	—	—	9	16
KU-RING-GAI	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
MANLY-WARRINGAH	35	44	6	10	8	9	7	10	4	4	—	—	10	11
NORTHERN DISTRICTS	34	53	4	10	10	14	9	15	6	6	—	—	5	8
NORTHERN SUBURBS	37	38	4	6	8	8	8	8	7	6	—	—	10	10
PROTESTANT CHURCHES	202	242	—	—	40	59	40	52	24	28	—	8	98	95
SOUTHERN DISTRICTS	31	22	6	6	6	6	7	6	4	4	—	—	8	—
SUTHERLAND SHIRE	26	32	6	10	9	10	7	8	4	4	—	—	—	—
ST. GEORGE	34	34	—	5	8	11	6	6	6	6	2	—	12	6
WEST SYDNEY	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
SYDNEY DISTRICT TOTAL	609	741	69	104	134	197	119	152	77	86	15	22	195	180
A.C.T.	32	22	2	—	3	—	4	4	3	—	—	—	20	18
BRISBANE WATER	9	13	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9
ILLAWARRA DISTRICT	36	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7	5	6	23	26
ILLAWARRA SCHOOLBOYS	54	68	17	26	18	25	19	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
LITHGOW	10	9	—	—	6	6	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
NEWCASTLE	151	146	52	44	32	38	23	18	15	16	13	15	16	15
NORTH-WEST	10	24	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	10	13
SOUTH MAITLAND	25	27	7	8	8	9	5	5	5	5	—	—	—	—
WAGGA WAGGA	16	17	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	9
WESTERN DISTRICT	6	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	10
COUNTRY TOTAL	349	375	78	78	67	90	55	58	31	28	18	21	100	100
N.S.W. TOTAL	958	1116	147	182	201	287	174	210	108	114	33	43	295	280

To the above figures may be added totals such as Lismore Association (25 teams), Broken Hill Association, and various other known un-affiliated clubs such as Scone, Goulburn, Wauchope, Kempsey, Blue Mountains, etc., which represent a minimum of another 40 teams, with probably many more.

Playing strength (affiliated Associations) — minimum 16,922 players.



# TODAY'S FIXTURES

## STATE LEAGUE.

Box Hill v. Wilhelmina.  
Juventus v. Hellenic.  
Moreland v. Geelong.

Brighton v. George Cross.  
Slavia v. Polonia.  
Hakoah v. J.U.S.T.

## METROPOLITAN NORTH.

### FIRST DIVISION.

Coburg v. Sunshine United.  
Yallourn v. Maccabi.  
I.C.I. v. Footscray.  
Hayduk v. Brunswick.  
Sunshine City v. Preston.

### SECOND DIVISION.

Lions v. Fairfield.  
Williamstown v. C. Fert.  
St. Albans v. Corio.  
Heidelberg v. Croatia.  
Fiorentina v. University.

### FIRST DIVISION RESERVES.

Preston v. Sunshine City.  
Lions v. Heidelberg.  
Footscray Capri v. I.C.I.  
Maccabi v. Yallourn.  
University v. Coburg.

## METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

### FIRST DIVISION.

Park Rangers v. South Melbourne.  
South Yarra v. Richmond.  
Dandenong v. Frankston.  
Pahran v. Melbourne.  
Vic. Colts v. Yarra Park.

### SECOND DIVISION.

Olympia v. F.N.D.  
Ferntree Gully v. Sicilia.  
Croydon v. Bayswater.  
Sandringham City v. Rosebud.  
Moorabbin City v. Vic. Police.

### FIRST DIVISION RESERVES.

Sandringham City v. Moorabbin.  
Melbourne v. Prahran.  
Frankston v. Dandenong.  
Richmond v. South Yarra.  
South Melbourne v. Park Rangers.

# MONDAY'S FIXTURES

## STATE LEAGUE.

Wilhelmina v. Moreland.  
Juventus v. Box Hill.  
Geelong v. Brighton.

George Cross v. Slavia.  
Polonia v. Hakoah.  
Hellenic v. J.U.S.T.

## METROPOLITAN NORTH.

### FIRST DIVISION.

Brunswick v. Sunshine City.  
Footscray v. Hayduk.  
Maccabi v. I.C.I.  
Sunshine United v. Yallourn.  
Preston v. Coburg.

### SECOND DIVISION.

Croatia v. Fiorentina.  
Corio v. Heidelberg.  
C. Fert. v. St. Albans.  
Fairfield v. Williamstown.  
University v. Lions.

### FIRST DIVISION RESERVES.

Yallourn v. University.  
I.C.I. v. Maccabi.  
Heidelberg v. Footscray Capri.  
Sunshine City v. Lions.  
Coburg v. Preston.

## METROPOLITAN SOUTH.

### FIRST DIVISION.

Melbourne v. Vic. Colts.  
Frankston v. Prahran.  
Richmond v. Dandenong.  
South Melb. v. South Yarra.  
Yarra Park v. Park Rangers.

### SECOND DIVISION.

Rosebud v. Moorabbin City.  
Bayswater v. Sandringham City.  
Sicilia v. Croydon.  
F.N.D. v. Ferntree Gully.  
Vic. Police v. Olympia.

### FIRST DIVISION RESERVES.

South Yarra v. South Melbourne.  
Dandenong v. Richmond.  
Prahran v. Frankston.  
Moorabbin v. Melbourne.  
Park Rangers v. Sandringham City.

## Important Transfers for 1958

EACH season, to date, players have had the opportunity to switch their Club allegiance. Here are some of the important changes for the 1958 series:—

BUKKOS: Melbourne to Polonia.

STEGNER: Richmond to Polonia.

ARANYI: Juventus to Polonia.

UCCHINO: Juventus to Polonia.

RUUTERS: Wilhelmina to J.U.S.T.

ARTNER: J.U.S.T. to Hakoah.

ANDERSON: Geelong to Hakoah.

LOGAN: Sunshine City to Hakoah.

GRANT: Geelong to Hakoah.

SLADE: Polonia to Hakoah.

TOGNON: Geelong to Hakoah.

GUARDIANI: Juventus to Polonia.

PENZO: Geelong to Polonia.

CSARDAS: Melbourne to Polonia.

BALISH: I.C.I. to Slavia.

COOK: South Melbourne to Slavia.

ZABLOCKI: Polonia to Slavia.

VAN DER PEET: Box Hill to Wilhelmina.

BOZ: Geelong to Juventus.

PANGRAZIO: Geelong to Juventus.

SALVALAGGIO: Geelong to Juventus.

VARRASSO: Geelong to Juventus.

CUBERO: J.U.S.T. to Juventus.

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